

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Previously Presented)

A method of inflating and launching a balloon, comprising the steps of:
opening a cover on a case and extending at least one panel from the case
to provide a launch platform on which an uninflated balloon can be placed;
securing a launch bag to said launch platform;
inserting an uninflated balloon in said launch bag to secure said uninflated
balloon to said launch platform; and
controllably releasing said balloon from said launch bag.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented)

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9 wherein the case
provides an enclosed space for the storage and transport of said uninflated balloon.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented)

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9 further comprising the
step of supporting the case by extending a plurality of legs from the case, wherein said
legs may be extended from the case prior to opening the cover.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented)

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9 wherein said launch
bag includes an elastic material.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9, wherein said launch
bag is releasably secured to said launch platform.

Claim 14-20 (Cancelled)

Claim 21 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9, further comprising the step of supporting the case by extending a plurality of legs from the case, wherein said legs fold out from the back of the case and the back of the case is located on a side of the case that is opposite the cover.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9, wherein the case includes at least one wheel that permits transportation of the case.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9, wherein the case includes a handle and at least one fitting that enables the case to be secured to a solid structure.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9, wherein the case includes a handle and at least one fitting that enables the case to be lifted.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9, wherein at least a first and a second panel are extended to provide the launch platform. ~~further comprising the step of extending another panel from the case to provide the launch platform on which the uninflated balloon can be placed.~~

Claim 26 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 25, wherein at least one of the panels extends beyond the end of the balloon.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented):

A method of inflating and launching a balloon, comprising the steps of:

securing a launch bag that includes an elastic material to a launch site;
inserting an uninflated balloon in said launch bag to secure said uninflated
balloon to said launch site; and
controllably releasing said balloon from said launch bag.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented)

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27 wherein the launch site includes a launch platform that is provided, at least in part, by opening a case that provides an enclosed space for the storage and transport of said uninflated balloon.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27 wherein the launch site includes a launch platform that is provided, at least in part, by opening a case that is supported by extending a plurality of legs from the case, wherein said legs may be extended from the case prior to opening a cover of the case.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented)

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27, wherein said launch bag is releasably secured to said launch site.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27, wherein the launch site includes a launch platform that is provided, at least in part, by opening a case that is supported by extending a plurality of legs from the case, wherein said legs fold out from the back of the case and the back of the case is located on a side of the case that is opposite the cover.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27, wherein the launch site includes a launch platform that is provided, at least in part, by opening a case that includes at least one wheel that permits transportation of the case.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27, wherein the launch site includes a launch platform that is provided, at least in part, by opening a case that includes a handle and at least one fitting that enables the case to be secured to a solid structure.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27, wherein the launch site includes a launch platform that is provided, at least in part, by opening a case that includes a handle and at least one fitting that enables the case to be lifted.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27, wherein the launch site includes a launch platform that is provided, at least in part, by extending a first and a second panel from an open case.